



King County

Wastewater Treatment Division

Department of Natural Resources and Parks

King Street Center
201 South Jackson Street
Seattle, WA 98104-3855

October 15, 2004

Dear Community Members,

The King County Wastewater Treatment Division is pleased to present the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Carnation Wastewater Treatment Facility. The City of Carnation has determined that replacing on-site septic systems with a wastewater treatment facility is important to address public health concerns, achieve the city's comprehensive plan goals and maintain and enhance community livability. The City has contracted with King County to design, build, operate and maintain the treatment facility, which will include a treatment plant, conveyance pipe and a discharge option. The new wastewater treatment facility will serve the city and its urban growth area, as defined in the city's comprehensive plan.

King County is committed to protecting public health and the environment. King County has provided safe, environmentally sound wastewater treatment in the central Puget Sound region for 40 years.

The Draft EIS on the Carnation Wastewater Treatment Facility was issued on June 28, 2004. The Draft EIS analyzed in detail the characteristics, probable significant impacts, and mitigation measures for the Carnation Wastewater Treatment Facility alternatives. Issuance of the Draft EIS was followed by a thirty-day public comment period that included a public hearing. Eight government agencies and 20 individuals or groups provided comments. King County considered all of the comments submitted in preparing the Final EIS.

The Final EIS describes the Carnation Wastewater Treatment Facility proposal; identifies potential environmental impacts of the alternatives; and identifies reasonable mitigation measures to reduce and, in some cases, eliminate the identified impacts. The Final EIS also includes King County's responses to comments, including changes made in the EIS as a result of those comments.

Because King County will be required to ensure that the facility meets all applicable regulatory requirements, the King County Executive, in consultation with the City of Carnation, will make a final decision in fall 2004 on the treatment plant site, conveyance route and discharge option. His decision will be based on the analyses in the Draft and Final EISs, as well as other factors—including cost, community considerations, engineering, and policy issues. King County and the Carnation City Council worked together on establishing a decision process. More information on that process can be found on the King County Web site at <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wtd/carnation/>. The King County Executive will carefully consider comments from the City of Carnation and community members in making the decision.

We are committed to being a good neighbor and an asset to the area. We have worked closely with the City of Carnation and local residents and groups to minimize the impacts and maximize benefits of this project. We will continue to do so. Your involvement plays an important role in the decision and design processes. Please take time to read the Final EIS and stay involved with this project.

Sincerely,

Don Theiler,
SEPA Responsible Official and Division Director
Wastewater Treatment Division